

## You and the stage manager

The stage manager (SM) is your lifeline so choose wisely. Many professional directors will work only if they have certain stage managers as part of the team.

If available you should opt for a SM of the opposite sex. From a practical standpoint, if the leading lady is sick, one of you takes her part and if the leading man's ill, the other performs for him...a very efficient use of time.

If you can't do this then try to enlist an assistant director the same way for the same reason. It leads to superior results.

I know I've said this before but it's worth repeating: make sure you understand each other's responsibilities. Exchanging or agreeing on job descriptions is a good idea.